

5-10-1984

## News & Views - Vol. 02, No. 12 - May 10, 1984

University of Massachusetts Boston

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### Recommended Citation

University of Massachusetts Boston, "News & Views - Vol. 02, No. 12 - May 10, 1984" (1984). *1983-1991, News & Views*. Paper 23.  
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*Briefly . . .*

Famed comedian Dick Gregory was the keynote speaker May 9 at a conference on collaboration sponsored by the Institute for Learning & Teaching (ILT) of UMass/Boston and The Learning Evaluation Project (LEP), which is a collaborative process involving faculties from the Boston Public Schools and UMass/Boston.

LEP, now in its second year of operation, is designed to improve the quality of teaching and learning in universities/colleges and high schools by increasing awareness of teaching strategies/approaches, ways students learn, and the effectiveness of a multicultural approach to education.

Involved in a panel discussion were Fuad Safwat, Deputy Provost and Director of ILT; Jean MacCormack, Associate Director, ILT and Eileen O'Neill, teacher, South Boston High School. Mary Shaner of the English Dept. was moderator.

Renee Arb of the Art Dept. is giving a series of five lectures on Great Masters of Italian Renaissance Art at the East Boston branch of the Boston Public Library. The series began April 26 with "15th Century Florence; Where it All Began" followed May 3 with "Leonardo Da Vinci: In Search of the Secrets of Creation." The series continues May 10 with "Raphael: The Courtship of Perfect Harmony"; May 17: "Michelangelo: The Longing for the Divine"; May 24: "Titian: A Celebration." The program is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Bill Hansard, Associate Professor, Art, exhibited some of his video productions at Howard University's 13th annual Communications Seminar recently.

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# Six to receive honorary degrees at UMass/Boston commencement

U.S. District Court Judge David S. Nelson, former Boston Red Sox General Manager Richard H. (Dick) O'Connell and MBTA General Manager James O'Leary, a UMass/Boston graduate in 1970, will be among six recipients of honorary degrees at the 20th Commencement of UMass/Boston on Sunday, May 20 at the Harbor Campus.

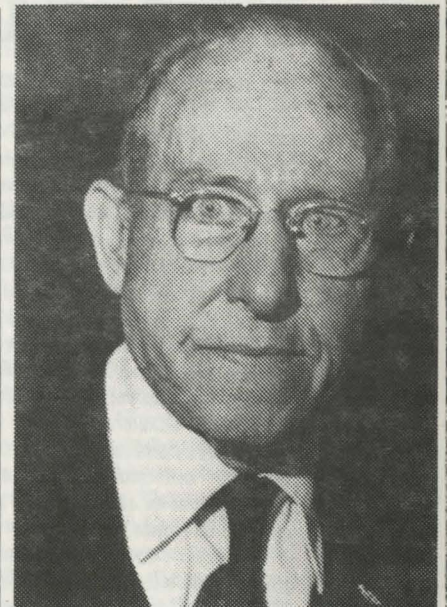
Also feted will be Rev. James K. Allen of the historic First Parish Church, Dorchester; Roderick M. MacDougall, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Bank of New England, and Dean Ellen S. Jackson of Northeastern University, a pioneer in the Metco program.

Judge Nelson, 50, a Roxbury resident, attended Boston Latin and, after studying for a while in the seminary, he received a B.S. degree from Boston College in 1957 and a Law degree from B.C. Law School in 1960. After a highly-successful law partnership, he was appointed a justice of the Massachusetts Superior Court in 1973 and to the federal district court in 1979.

O'Connell, 64, was a member of the Red Sox organization from 1946 and was GM for the pennant-winning years of 1967, the Impossible Dream, and 1975. He was graduated from Boston College in 1937 and received an MA degree there in 1938. The Red Sox set new attendance records under his administration.

O'Leary, 33, was graduated from Suffolk University Law School in 1973. The West Roxbury resident was voted one of the Ten Outstanding Young Leaders of 1982 by the Greater Boston Junior Chamber of Commerce. He became General Manager of the "T" in 1981.

Rev. Allen, 75, will accept his first

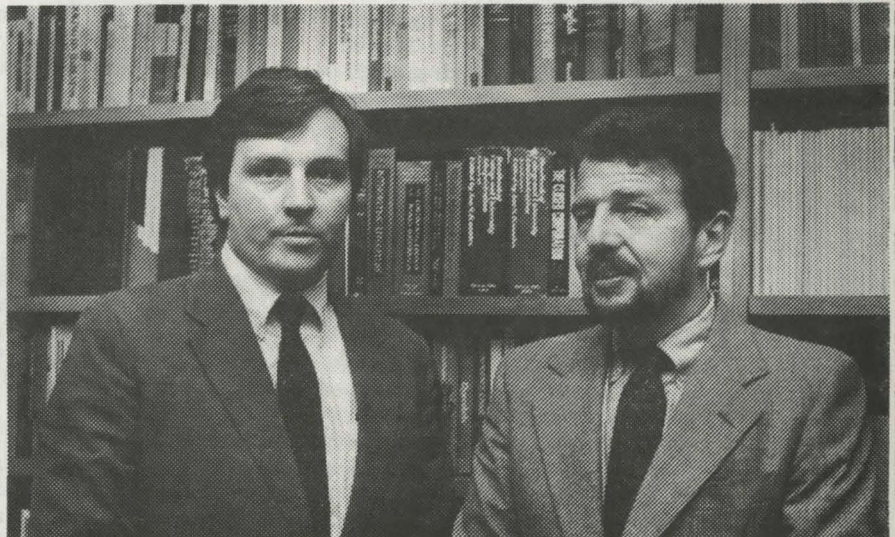


Reverend James E. Allen

honorary degree. He has lived a life of great variety as a teacher, college dean, part-time preacher in the North and Mid-West, a public school principal and superintendent.

MacDougall, a Weston resident, joined the New England Merchants National Bank (now Bank of New England, N.A.) in 1974 after serving with the Marine Midland Bank-Rochester, N.Y. and other institutions. He has been very active in community ventures, including the Boston Symphony, Massachusetts Business Roundtable, United Way and the Museum of Science.

Ms. Jackson, a Roxbury resident, is the Affirmative Action Dean at Northeastern University.



Honorary degree recipient James O'Leary, general manager of the MBTA, with Chancellor Robert A. Corrigan. O'Leary returns to his alma mater May 20 to be honored



## profile

# U.S. Judge David Nelson chosen to address UMB's Class of '84

United States District Court Judge David S. Nelson, 50, of Roxbury, a 1984 honorary degree recipient at UMass/Boston, believes education and initiative are the keys to success in life no matter what your background.

Judge Nelson forged forward with his education and career even as a child in the turmoil and difficulties of the inner-city. He says he always made the venture with faith and trust that he would succeed if he gave his best effort.

Reminiscing recently, Judge Nelson thinks now that his initiative probably was always coupled "with a certain naivete," but that naivete may be a state of mind that could be put to good use by today's students, he stated.

As one of four sons of Jamaican immigrants whom Judge Nelson described as "industrious people," he attended the Julia Ward Howe elementary school, Boston Latin, and, after studying for a time in the seminary, he received a Bachelor of Science degree from Boston College in 1957 and a Law degree from Boston College Law School in 1960.

His initiative coupled with naivete was apparent early in life when his fifth grade teacher insisted he would go to Latin School. It didn't occur to him to question the decision or to refuse to obey. "Not only was it made clear to me that I was to go, but, when I got home, my mother already knew about it," Judge Nelson said.

Later in the 1950's, he ventured out of Roxbury into Somerville to try for a job to help his parents pay his way through Boston College.

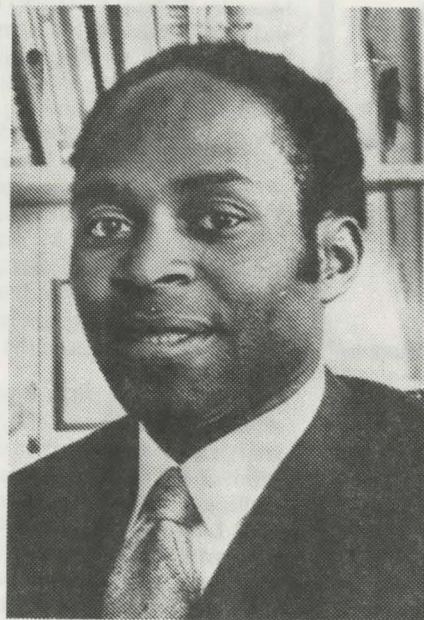
"It was the old Ford plant and my parents and others counseled me not to go there... that I would never be hired and that it would be an insult to me."

He went anyway, Judge Nelson said, because he believed then as he does now that initiative is required when the risk being taken "portends the possibility of insult."

"It had nothing to do with being pushy," Judge Nelson explained. "It was not even a question of pride. It was a question of whether or not a 'no' could be insulting if it came from prejudice. I always felt you could not be insulted by someone else's prejudice. I felt it had to be something lacking in them."

"So I went... and I got the job."

It was the same later when, as a law student at B.C., he applied for a job at Stop & Shop in Cambridge. "The manager said 'I'll call you... you don't call me,' and I knew I didn't have the job. But, lo and behold, the following week he called and I went on."



Judge David S. Nelson

At Stop & Shop Judge Nelson met Joe Oteri, who was also working while studying law. They became fast friends and later were members of the same law firm.

Judge Nelson's initiative and simple faith also led him to put his trust in another Boston lawyer, attorney Monroe Inker who was one of his law professors.

"He promised me upon graduation that, if I kept my head on straight and my marks correct, I would have a job with his firm," the judge recalled.

Nelson kept his part of the bargain... Inker kept his... and all three, Nelson, Oteri and Inker, made up a dynamic law partnership in Boston for years. Nelson left in January, 1973, when he was appointed a justice of the Massachusetts Superior Court.

In March, 1979, he was appointed a federal district court judge when his name was submitted to former President Jimmy Carter by Senator Ted Kennedy.

Upon his swearing in as a state judge back in '73, Nelson was described as a "humanitarian" and a man who "seeks a better society in which to live."

He has not changed. He is still this way. He is still an inner-city person, caring about the needs of inner-city kids.

He is concerned with the deterioration of quality and standards in public education. He believes they must be returned as well as an atmosphere which requires students to live up to both individual initiative (doing homework and getting passing grades) and the expectations of their teachers.

But, most importantly, he believes everyone should be educated even if career goals are vague or not known.

"Sooner or later along the way, not only the opportunities, but the inclinations will develop to what you want to be," Judge Nelson advised, noting that he studied through college to be... first a priest, then an English teacher, then a math teacher. He specialized at different times in history, government and finally, philosophy.

"In my last year I took the LSAT exam and got a scholarship to law school and ended up in a vocation I never imagined being in," he said. "I love the law."

In addition to receiving B.S. and Law degrees from Boston College, Nelson studied at the National Judicial College in Nevada.

He has a wide teaching experience and still conducts classes in Criminal Trial Practice at Harvard Law School and Trial Advocacy at the Boston University School of Law.

He has served as an Assistant State Attorney General, counsel for the Catholic Charities of Boston, member of its Board of Directors and counselor on the Metropolitan Marriage Tribunal.

Judge Nelson was chairman of the Mass. Defenders Committee, director of the Mass. Law Reform, treasurer of the Voluntary Defenders Committee, was on the local and national Boards of Directors of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and the Board of Directors of the Mass. Correctional Association.

## Briefly...

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UMass/Boston was well represented when Governor Michael Dukakis signed a proclamation for physical education in Massachusetts. Among the representatives on hand at the State House were Dr. Jacqueline Haslett, Associate Professor of Physical Education, and Cheryl Staskawicz, a senior physical education major and President of the Physical Education Club on campus.

Dr. Haslett, incidentally, becomes President of the Massachusetts Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance on May 14.

Dr. Suzanne Spencer-Wood of the Anthropology Dept. and Dr. Robert Risse of the Art Dept. and Director of the Communication Program, collaborated on a videotape documenting a UMass/Boston archaeology project at the Greene Mansion and Apothecary, Windsor, Vt. The tape, produced by Dr. Risse, was cablecast by stations throughout the state as part of the Local Focus Series.



## chancellor's corner

*In the last issue I reported the profile of our student body in the context of the tuition increase for public higher education in the Commonwealth, which was then under discussion and has now been voted in by the Board of Regents. I remain concerned that the 15% increase will prove excessively burdensome to our student body.*

*Reprinted here is my April 12th testimony on this subject before the Legislature's Joint Committee on Education.*

Members of the Joint Education Committee:

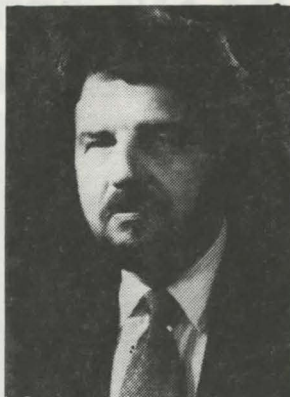
I am Robert A. Corrigan, Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today on the subject of proposed tuition increases.

I have been consistently concerned about the levels of tuition charged students in public higher education in the Commonwealth during my five years as Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts at Boston, as I am sure you may recall. This year, with a new tuition policy for public higher education just adopted by the Board of Regents, I am convinced that careful scrutiny of the effects of proposed increases is more important than ever. The wisdom of the new policy itself will be tested by any increase which might be voted.

The new policy calls for the review of proposed tuition increases in the light of several factors, including the ability of students to pay the increases, the availability of adequate financial aid, the levels of fees charged at various colleges and universities in addition to tuition, and other relevant factors. President David Knapp, in his letter to Chancellor John Duff about the new policy before its adoption, urged that the Regents work with institutional Boards of Trustees while developing specific proposals for changes in tuition levels, in large part to ensure that full knowledge of required fees would be taken into account. Fees represent, after all, a substantial cost to students beyond tuition. I hope that President Knapp's recommendation will be heeded by the Board of Regents and its staff.

Let me speak specifically to the impact of a major tuition increase on the students of UMass/Boston. First, you should be aware that, since 1974, tuition already has increased from \$300 to \$1,129, an increase of 276%. During the same period, the consumer price index rose less than half as much. Further, the only state college in the city has closed, thus making unavailable a lower tuition option for urban students who want to enroll directly in four year programs. If tuition is raised at the University next year by 15%, tuition will have gone up more than 100% since 1979 for University students. During the



same period, the consumer price index in Boston has increased only 50%. Tuition has increased *twice* the rate of the CPI and our students have seen the price of public higher education rise at a rate which significantly exceeds cost increases in other parts of the economy.

How does this effect access to four year programs in Boston? About 65% of our students receive some form of financial aid. A summary statement by the College Scholarship Service compiled last August indicates that the median family income of dependent students who filed financial aid forms was slightly over \$17,000. Approximately 40% of these families made *less* than \$15,000. And about half of our students who apply for financial aid are independent from their parents, not surprising when one remembers that the average age of our student body is 28. Among these students, 95% have incomes below \$15,000, with the median less than \$4,000. These are students whose incomes must provide completely for their own living expenses in addition to their educational costs. The present federally audited cost of education at UMass/Boston for independent students including living expenses is \$7,860. Clearly, an increase of 15% in tuition would be a significant and difficult increase for a major portion of our students, dependent and independent alike.

What is the relationship between available financial aid and the needs of our students? We cannot come close to meeting our student's financial needs. The tuition waiver policy of the Board of Regents is, as Chancellor Duff has remarked on many occasions, an enlightened and commendable policy. But it does not nearly meet the need of low income students for financial assistance. The State Scholarship money is similarly commendable although, of course, by far the greater part of that money goes to students in private higher education, rather than to students in public institutions. But even with these sources, and with all other forms of State and Federal support, we are able to meet, on the average, only 54% of each student's need. Fifty-four percent! Put another way,

a student who walks into our financial aid office can reasonably expect to walk out with little more than half of what he or she needs to go to school. The increases in tuition waiver funds and State Scholarship funds now contemplated would be insufficient to meet the needs of our students even without any tuition increase. In Fiscal 1984, the total unmet financial need for UMass/Boston students eligible for financial aid totals almost \$11,000,000.

It is important to point out that federal policy contributes significantly to these difficulties. The federal Pell Grants are a major potential source of financial aid to low income students. But federal policy for the award of Pell Grants includes a "half-cost" provision: Pell Grants pay up to a maximum of \$1,900, minus a calculated provision for family contribution — *or* Pell Grants pay one-half the student's cost of education (tuition, fees, room and board, books, ect.), *whichever is lower*. This works out so that the maximum Pell Grant for a UMass/Boston student presently is \$1,413 — almost \$500 lower than the maximum allowed by law, even though the student will still be short, on the average, nearly half of his or her need, even after available funds from tuition waivers and all other sources are added to his/her aid package. With a tuition increase, the Pell Grants for our neediest students will, of course, increase also. But the gap between need and aid will remain.

It is no wonder that a recent survey we conducted among students who dropped out of UMass/Boston found that financial difficulty was one of the most important reasons for students' leaving school.

In circumstances like these, a major tuition increase is virtually certain to have a negative impact on access to public university education. I recognize that tuition increases sometimes must occur. But the combination of increases already voted during the recent past, together with the impact of federal aid programs on low income students in public institutions like UMass/Boston, persuade me that a tuition increase as high as 15% is not appropriate now.

I would make one further comment. I believe that a major increase now could have a negative effect on the quality of public higher education under the new tuition policy. The new policy provides maximum levels, or "caps", on the total percent of "cost" that tuition can reach, and on the percentage that tuition can increase in a given year. But the policy wisely avoids any provision for automatic increases in tuition, allowing instead a procedure for review whenever an increase might be under consideration. If the maximum increase were voted now, a few weeks after passing the new policy, it would create the strong impression that the "caps" are in fact targets, that whenever tuition income may be less than

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# Winning Bosox GM O'Connell to receive UMB honorary degree

Richard H. (Dick) O'Connell of Belmont, former Executive Vice-President and General Manager of the Boston Red Sox, will receive an honorary degree at UMass/Boston's 20th Commencement at the Harbor Campus on Sunday, May 20.

O'Connell, 64, was at the helm when the Red Sox won American League pennants in 1967 — the Impossible Dream with manager Dick Williams — and in 1975. On both occasions, the World Series went seven games. The Red Sox lost to the St. Louis Cardinals in 1967 and to the Cincinnati Reds in 1975.

A native of Winthrop, O'Connell was graduated from Boston College in 1937 and received an MA degree there in 1938. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II.

Promoted to GM in 1966, O'Connell took a team that had drawn just 652,201 in 1965 and boosted home attendance to a then-record 1,727,832 in pennant-winning 1967. The Red Sox never fell under 1,000,000 thereafter and, in fact, hit 2,074,549 in 1977, despite playing in major league baseball's smallest ballpark. Fenway Park has 33,536 seats.

Along the way, O'Connell built a highly-successful farm system that funneled top prospects like Fred Lynn, Jim Rice, Carlton Fisk and Rick Burleson to Boston. He also engineered imaginative deals, including the one that brought free agent Ken (Hawk)



Richard H. O'Connell

Harrelson from Kansas City, a move that helped clinch the '67 pennant.

Several lucrative TV-radio deals were negotiated under O'Connell's management. He signed Fred Lynn, Rick Burleson and Carlton Fisk to long-term contracts before wild free agent bidding ensued. The giant new scoreboard atop the centerfield stands was one of O'Connell's last contributions to the Red Sox.

O'Connell left the Red Sox management after owner Tom Yawkey died and the team passed to his widow and associates. He since has served in a special capacity with the Boston Celtics and as a consultant.

## UMB honors Dorchester's Rev. Allen

Reverend James K. Allen, pastor of the historic First Parish Church on Meeting House Hill in Dorchester, has earned three degrees in a lifetime, including one in theology. Now, at the age of 75, he has been awarded his first honorary degree.

It will be presented to him by the University of Massachusetts at Boston during its May 20th commencement at the Harbor Campus.

It seems fitting that the slim, energetic clergyman, known for his responsiveness to the needs of the whole community as well as those of his church, should be honored during the celebration of UMass/Boston's 20th anniversary.

He was one of the first and most vocal proponents of the Dorchester location for the Harbor Campus.

"I boosted the university... went way out to get them to come to Dorchester," he recalled. "I felt it would improve the area, bring in professionally-trained individuals and increase the educational level of the whole district."

The busy septuagenarian was born in Idaho. He has lived a life of great variety as a teacher, college dean, part-time preacher in the North and Mid-West for churches that otherwise would have closed, a public school principal and superintendent.

He left teaching full-time and began his full-time ministry when he entered the Boston University School of Theology in 1942. He received his S.T.B. from B.U. This was followed by graduate study at the Harvard Episcopal Theological School and ministries at a couple of Massachusetts' parishes before his appointment to the First Parish Church in Dorchester.

Today, Rev. Allen presides over all the activities of his parishioners plus all the civic and neighborhood gatherings held at the church. He also finds time to help a large group of Haitian Pentacostalists who hold services there and an enclave of Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees who have settled in Dorchester.

Rev. Allen said he sees great hope for the rebirth of the neighborhoods:

"People have come back," he said. "Houses here in Dorchester are at a premium and it's hard to find a vacant house or apartment."

Rev. Allen received his B.S. from the University of Idaho as well as his M.S. in Education.

## chancellor's corner (cont. from page 3)

33% of the "cost of education," tuition will be raised. Such an impression is very likely to lead, directly and quickly, to low income students' organizing to oppose increases in the state appropriation for higher education because such increases inevitably will mean higher tuition. To force those students who most need excellence in public education to oppose allocation of the funds which would support that excellence surely cannot be a desired outcome of the new tuition policy. The good faith of the new policy, on the other hand, can be clearly demonstrated by a decision not to vote a tuition increase which approaches the policy caps this year.

I am also very concerned because the proposed tuition increase would create the appearance of redistributing public students' tuition payments to support students in private education. I understand that tuition increases under consideration would produce about \$13,000,000 of new revenue. Of that amount, Chancellor Duff has stated publicly that \$5,000,000 will come back to students in public higher education through increases in tuition

waivers and state scholarship funds. This creates the unfortunate impression that the balance of public students' increased tuition payments, \$8,000,000, would be going to support expanded scholarships for students in private institutions.

What is an appropriate step, then? While I would prefer little or no increase, I recognize that current budget recommendations include important support for new programs in higher education, and that some increase in revenue is necessary from tuition to help provide the funds for new programs. I would urge, however, that such increases for the University fall no higher than 10%. While such an increase still would be difficult for many students, it would more nearly be matched by the proposed increases in tuition waivers and state scholarship funds for public higher education, and thus have minimal impact on low income students.

I hope you will find my comments helpful as you consider this issue. Thank you, again, for the opportunity to speak to you about this most important matter.